segment description, defining which transform coefficients that belong to respective segment.

17. The arrangement of claim 16, wherein the transmitter has means for generating a subset description, defining which transform coefficients that belong to an independently decodable part of a segment.

18. The arrangement of claim 17, wherein the transmitter has means for generating a pointer, defining a position in the bit stream for the respective one of the above mentioned descriptions.

In the Abstract:

Please replace the abstract with the following:

An image in digitized form shall be transmitted over a channel between a transmitter and a receiver. The channel has a limited bandwidth and the image has a less important background and also regions of particular importance, i.e. regions of interest. The image is transformed into transform coefficients and compressed, and a mask corresponding to the regions is defined in the transform domain. The transform coefficients are classified and assigned to different segments in accordance with the mask definition. These segments are coded independently of one another to different degrees of accuracy, depending on the importance of corresponding regions in the image. Coding results in sub-bit streams which are linked together with the image header to form a bit stream, which is sent to the receiver. The receiver decodes the image header and the segment information and reconstructs the mask in the transform domain, including shapes and positions of the regions. The image is then recreated with the aid of the mask to desired degrees of accuracy in respective regions. It is possible to define several regions with different degrees of image quality, and only those parts of the image that are of interest need be decoded.